Civil Rights Awareness forum to cover variety of subjects

Survey says a third of CSU students are victims, or see bias

By Moorea Warren

The committee on Civil Rights Awareness is sponsoring the first Civil Rights Awareness Forum on Thursday at the University Union.

Seminar topics vary from reproductive rights to children's rights and from sexual harassment to recognizing prejudice.

About 40 speakers from the campus and throughout the state will be present at the day-long forum said Robert Madison, project coordinator.

A political science senior, Madison has put together the forum as his senior project.

The committee's consensus is that civil rights is more than a minority issue; it's a human rights issue.

Poverty and the homeless, the rights of gays and lesbians, and gender discrimination are civil rights issues, Madison said.

"It isn't just an Afro-American issue anymore," he said.

At least 30 percent of students on campus either witness or are victims of some type of discrimination, according to a recent CSU system-wide Student Needs and Priorities (SNAPS) survey.

"Not every black family is the Cosby's, but they aren't 'Good Times' or 'Sanford and Son' either," Madison said.

People can forget that humans have more similarities than differences when they buy into television's stereotypes, he said.

The Committee on Civil Rights Awareness was founded last fall by a political science senior, Madison, "It isn't just an Afro-American issue anymore," he said.

The committee has found that there are more similarities than differences when people think. All people affect the world and make it a more hospitable place. This is what I mean by..."

Conference on culture's role held Saturday

Place in American Culture' featured author Yi-Fu Tuan

By Sabrina L. Garcia

Students and faculty from Cal Poly's School of Liberal Arts learned how culture plays a role in personal identity and sense of place last weekend.

The "Place in American Culture" conference drew about 150 scholars from all over the country, said George Cokkin, conference coordinator.

"People of all areas - sociology, English, mythology and folklore - took part in the conference," said Cokkin. "They came from just about every part of the country, Minnesota, Mississippi, Wyoming and Texas just to name a few."

Yi-Fu Tuan, a professor of geography from the University of Wisconsin and a well-known author, was the keynote speaker although the conference included about 20 different sessions.

Tuan spoke on Saturday afternoon to an audience of about 120. His message was mainly about the indifference of the world.

"The world, as in the environment - culture shapes the world by what people do to the world and how they think. All people affect the world and make it a more hospitable place. This is what I mean by..."

Some of the other sessions included discussions on various books and papers. Cal Poly professors who presented papers included Steven Faxon, an English professor, who wrote on the Madonna Inn.

All of the presentations were focused on sense of place in culture and how all of these subjects play a role.

Sarah Luria, a graduate student from Stanford University, was the keynote speaker.

The future of sports...

Reporter Gregg Mansfield comments on Cal Poly athletics: where it's been, where it is, and where it's going.

Racing against the heat...

Those who competed in the Wildflower triathlon last weekend had to battle searing temperatures. Find out how they did, particularly those from Cal Poly who participated.
A Special Commentary

Rape victim thanks Poly faculty

In the fall of 1989, I transferred from the University of California at Santa Barbara. The main reason I came to a smaller town and, I hoped, a more personal university. Being a transfer student from Santa Barbara was not the place for me. My first quarter at Cal Poly was by far the best yet. The town was just my size and my classes were small and personal. I had found what I was looking for in a university. All was great until February 6th.

On February 6, 1990 at 3 p.m., I was running on Perfumo Canyon Road as I did everyday, but this day would change my life forever. I lost my peaceful run, I was attacked by three men in a car. One pulled me down into the creek bed and raped me as the others watched. I thought I would die, and at times I still do. But I am not writing this to you for sympathy, I am writing you because in this time of confusion, when you don’t know if you want to live or die, I found great comfort in school and my teachers. At first I thought I would drop out, but sitting around thinking about it was driving me crazy. I decided to fight and to write this letter to the Poly rape crisis center called my teachers and told them what had happened. When I returned to school five days later I was scared, I didn’t want to know what to expect. To my surprise, my teachers were very warm and understanding. They didn’t try to avoid me but instead came to talk to me before I could say anything and told me they were sorry and would do anything to help. Coming from a background where most of the people who speak to your teacher, this amazed me. The fact that they even knew who I was, or that they cared. They gave me the will to fight, and the hope that there are good people out there. They did not insult me by making it easy, but they gave me more time for papers and let me take tests in their office. Every day I looked forward to my classes because they let me escape from the terror of rape for awhile. I knew there I would be greeted with a warm smile and kind words and, if I wanted, a hug. I can’t express to you how grateful I am to these teachers and this university for the strength to keep on living.

When bad things happen to good people it is easy to give up on life. You think of people who keep this world together and keep the sun shining. I am blessed by the good people in the university and I hope one day I will touch someone else in the way these people touched mine.

Editor’s note: For both legal and personal reasons, the writer of this piece wishes to remain anonymous. She wishes to give her special thanks to professors David Boglund, Ann Morgan, Dan Howthorne, and Dwight Heirendt; all of whom have helped her get through this terrible period in her life.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 200 words. They should include the author’s name, address, phone number, and major/title. Submit letters to Room 226 of the Graphic Arts Building. They may be edited for length, clarity or factual content. Contact the Opinion editor if you wish to write a guest column.

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Letters to the Editor

A letter of thanks to the Poly Goats

On Monday morning, April 30, seven members of the Poly Goats four wheel drive club performed the unpleasant task of retrieving from a river-bed the car in which Jay Gamer tragically died last Thursday.

Jay Gamer was the high point of the Poly off-campus four wheel drive club. He was the conductor of the Poly royalty off-campus. He was a sense of duty to the campus, despite the fact that he was on new admissions policy. "It is an ignorant assumption that an "ethnic mix" is synonymous with "less qualified students. It is an ignorant assumption that borders on racism. The statistics show that any student admitted to Cal Poly is capable of competing academically with other Cal Poly students. Once admitted to Cal Poly, students of color have a high rate of graduation. Students who do occur are almost exclusively a product of socioeconomic reasons rather than poor or substandard academic performance. A major social reason for dropouts is an insensitivity by the white majority on campus towards cultural and ethnic heroes. When a public forum plays with the era and culture through creative editing and selective dialogue of printed documents, it does a disservice to everyone. It fuels the fires of in-quity and fear. It fuels the fires of racism, and other hatemongers a forum for their mindless exter- nalizing.

Robert Madison

Opinion

The vandal bikers

The Miossi Ranch shares a boundary fence with the Cal Poly Botanic Garden which includes a "Private Land, No Entry Please!" sign, to protect damage to the gate and ad- joining fence and destructive trampling formation on the ranch have occurred only in recent years since the advent of the notorious mountain bike. A favored downhill run was selected by these "bikini riders" and has been ridden perhaps thousand of times until it now defaces the hill and pres- ents an erosion hazard. Repeated efforts to discourage trespassing by congenial personal contact, additional wire and a locked chain have proved futile. Cal Poly offers hundreds of similar acres and miles of developed roads and trails, all clearly evident on maps specifically prepared and compiled at the Mott Gym and Student Activities office. The Cal Poly and the Cal Poly Wheelies are not aware of these maps or our respect of our neighbors. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights. All club and non-club bikers are encouraged to use the Cal Poly Wheelies and not to cross on our maps or residential rights.

The vandal biker's threat to the Poly Goats, as well as a few comments about the Poly Athletics in general.

A few thoughts on Cal Poly athletics in general.

From top to bottom. From basketball and track to baseball and football, Cal Poly athletics programs have been the highest pinnacle to the deepest valley, and the only thing that has been constant is the Cal Poly program.

Cal Poly, which has gone from one of the powerhouses of athletic programs across the nation, to underdogs, has little left to scratch their heads. This year, the basketball program is also in a crisis situation. It seems a war between ex-players and the head coach (Steve Beacon) is being dug into the sport, rather than calmly being discussed. It appears, unless something is done soon, the program will follow in the footsteps of San Jose State's basketball team, while others play self-proclaimed underdogs which is being directed by a coach who was later fired by the university.

The athletes are diagrammed with Beacon's coaching techniques, and from what is seen in the media, deservedly so. In addition to the criticism of his coaching ability, there was the controversy about alcohol. When a coach purchases alcohol for his players — two of which were under age — the program needs to reevaluate itself. Granted, at the time when Beacon purchased the beers for his players, he didn't know it would later be used against him. But there is still no excuse.

Meanwhile, Mustang athletics is in serious financial straits.

The whole program is running a $75,000 deficit and will be sub- jected to cuts if funding is not done soon.

Who's responsible? Where do we point the finger? The logical direction is at the head of the athletic department, Kenneth Walker. Walker, who was hired personally by President Warren Baker, is taking the program in the wrong direction.

From sources within the program, they mention that since Walker became the "top dog" within the program, booster con- tributions are down. One reason for the drop in contributions, said the anonymous source, is because the teams simply aren't winning. This drop in contributions partly accounts for why the athletic program is engaging in deficit spending.

Fortunately, it's not too late to save a program which was the jewel of the Division II athletics. And the answer is not to cut programs which don't make money for the department. The department cannot amputate part of athletic program and have the rest of the program remain healthy.

Instead the program must work through this time of crisis and search for ways to strengthen itself in coming years. They should create fundraising opportunities for the school; create advertising campaigns to draw San Luis Obispo residents to games; anything to raise money for the program.

Because if we don't save the program now, not only will the people in the athletic department be out of a job, but the student body as a whole will suffer.

Gregg Mansfield is a first-quarter reporter for Mustang Daily.
Suspects in U.S. marine’s killing arrested by police

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Police said today they arrested two Filipinos suspected of shooting an American Marine to death last week near the U.S. Subic Bay naval base.

But some police officials expressed doubts about the two, identified as drug addicts, were the real killers of Gunnery Sgt. John Fredette, 34. Police had initially blamed Communist rebels.

Fredette, who died in a shooting last week near the U.S. military’s Subic Bay naval base, was on temporary duty in the Philippines from the Marine Air Group 23 stationed at El Toro, Calif.

A witness, Buddy Young, said he saw Angeles tucking a gun as he ran.

William Burke, 24, Both denied involvement in the killing.

Burke, who said his father was a retired U.S. serviceman, was in tears. "I was framed," he said, without elaborating. "I do not know anything about the shooting.

A witness, Buddy Young, said he saw the men running away from the scene of the shooting. He said he saw Angeles tucking away a gun as he ran.

No group has claimed responsibility for killing Fredette, who was on temporary duty in the Philippines from the Marine Air Station at El Toro, Calif.

Police Lt. Col. Macarthur Torres said witnesses "positively identified" the two arrested men — Reynato Angeles, 33, and

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Poly Royal Is Gone

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Wildflower athletes battle warm weather

By Neil Pascale

Enduring scorching temperatures and a hilly terrain, athletes from around the world fought off muscle cramps and fits of dehydration to finish the Eighth Annual Wildflower Festival Triathlon at Lake San Antonio.

On Saturday, Preben Nielsen from Chico won the 25-mile International Triathlon in one hour, 30 minutes and 29 seconds despite temperatures that soared up to 102 degrees.

Redwood City resident Stephanie Danzig was the overall winner in the women's division finishing with a time of 1:44:54.

The short course also showcased a number of locals, including Cal Poly student Ryan Huckabay. The 20-year old finished ninth overall and second in the 20-24 age group with a time of 1:35:16. Scott Machado, a member of the Cal Poly triathlon club, finished just 10 minutes behind the leader and placed fourth in the 19 and under division.

"I really concentrated on the bike and the run by training on a lot of hills," Machado said. The Triathlon Club had 10 individuals and three relay teams participating in the short course.

On Sunday, the Wildflower Long Course Triathlon took a greater toll on the triathletes, including April Wagner, a Cal Poly student.

After nearly four hours of swimming 1.2 miles, bicycling 56 miles and running four miles of the course, 19 of the top 120 runners in the short course were from San Luis Obispo.

See TRIATHLON, page 6
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The program will become a regular extension of Sexual Assault Victim Education (SAVE), a community-based non-profit organization. The Rappers were created by speech communication senior Kristin Nyquist as part of her senior project. Nyquist's senior project is to create a local campaign and then compare it to a national campaign.

"I decided to do the program because I needed a project and I found out about SAVE's need for someone," she said. "This is something that will fulfill my future career goal, as well as my senior project requirement."

"It thought it (the presentation) went really well for the first time," Nyquist said. "We still need some of the rappers. It was a really good response from the children. It's great that we're getting across to them. A lot of good questions from the kids.""We know that there's a percentage that are abused and we'll have to know how to handle emotions afterwards," Schmid said.

She added that the rap was the program she was looking for.

"The students were so attractive to the children— they were like big brothers," Schmid said. "Children look up to college students and they felt supported. They feel that their idols support them, so now their community loves them. Children know when people care."

The Rappers are members of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and Sigma Kappa and Kappa Alpha Theta sororities. Nyquist says she approached the fraternities and sororities for help because she knew they would become involved.

Some of the Greek organizations are already involved in other SAVE programs.

"It's a great opportunity to help out the children of our community," Zac said. "It leaves you with a really good feeling."

Nyquist said the goal of the program is to be a success for the rest of the school year and have it continue from year to year.

Schmid said she could not "imagine them not being welcomed wherever they go as a group."

The Safety Tip Rappers include Reid Stevens, Marc Peterson, Scott McCabe and Scott Gould of Phi Delta Theta; Chris Bese and Katy Singer of Sigma Kappa; Zac of Kappa Alpha Theta; and Nyquist, the director.

The group's next performance is May 11 at Teach elementary school.

EDITOR'S note: Larre Sterling is also a member of the Safety Tip Rappers.
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CONFERENCE

From page 1
University, wrote what Cotkin said he considered to be an interesting paper.
"The subject was Edith Wharton, a turn-of-the-century writer that designed her own house to give her maximum privacy for her writing," said Cotkin. Luria's focus was women's creativity and their place in culture.

Those who helped organize the conference include Michael Steinbrinck from the department of American studies at CSU Fullerton, Cal Poly's School of Liberal Arts and the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society.

FORUM

From page 1
is a special need at Cal Poly to promote understanding and awareness of the nature of civil rights in the 1990s.

Project coordinator Madison said he wanted to bring a sense of community and give something back to Cal Poly before he graduates.

A program listing times and locations of seminars are available at the University Union information desk.

The day's activities are free and open to the general public.

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